

को पुनः लागू करने के लिए संविधान में एक संशोधन लाया गया है, लेकिन उस संशोधन से केवल एक ही न्यायालय के आदेश को रोका जा सका है।

इस विशेष उल्लेख के माध्यम से मैं सरकार से निवेदन करूंगा कि न्यायालय के उन आदेशों से प्रभावित अनुसूचित जाति एवं जनजाति के आरक्षण को पुनः पहले जैसी स्थिति में सरकार के आस्थासनों के अनुसार लाने हेतु वह संविधान में संशोधन करे।

श्री राजू परमार (गुजरात) : सर, मैं श्री मीणा जी के विशेष उल्लेख से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री मॉरिस कुजूर (उड़ीसा) : सर, मैं भी श्री मीणा जी के इस विशेष उल्लेख से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

Write ups on Hindu Gods in foreign Museums

DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY (Nominated): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I seek your kind permission to bring to the notice of the august House an important aspect bearing on the interpretation of true concepts of Hindu Gods in foreign museums. On the invitation of the Telugu Association of Australia, Melbourne, I went there and participated in its Tenth Anniversary Celebrations. As one interested in culture, I visited the 'Gold Museum' at Ballarat near Melbourne. It is a unique museum of exhibits on the story of gold, including coins. I came across a write up under the caption "The Golden Gods of India", containing two derogatory descriptions of Goddess Lakshmi. Referring to the coins of the Gupta and Vijayanagar dynasties, the write-up reads: (1) They show us the 'sensuous Lakshmi', the goddess of beauty...' and (2) 'seductive Lakshmi'. The prefixes are objectionable, 'Sensuous' means affecting the senses, 'Aindriy or Vishayaskt'. 'Seductive' means tempting, 'Vimohak'. According to Hindu mythology, Lakshmi, the consort of Vishnu, is the Goddess of wealth and prosperity. She is one among the Sapta Matrukas, Mother Goddesses. She is also regarded as Jaganmatha, Mother of the world. During my discussion with Mrs. Margaret Reid, President of Senate and Mr. Neil Andrew, Speaker of the House of Representatives of Australia, at a joint meeting in Canberra, I brought to their notice the objectionable write-ups on Goddess Lakshmi. They were surprised and requested the Indian High Commissioner to examine it. So far, I have not got any feedback either from the Indian High Commission or from the two learned Chairpersons. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would request the Minister of External Affairs to get the write-ups or descriptions on Hindu Gods in foreign museums verified to ensure correct interpretation. Thank you.

DR. RAJA RAMANNA (Nominated): Sir, I associate myself with this issue.

SHRI ADHIK SHIRODKAR (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with this issue.

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of the Government, I would like to assure the House that this matter would be looked into.

Fall in prices of agricultural commodities

SHRI C.O. POULOSE (Kerala): Sir, the farming community in the country as a whole and the State of Kerala, in particular, are going through a very serious situation due to the continuous fall in the prices of agricultural products. There are reports that 29 farmers have committed suicide in Kerala due to their inability to repay the agricultural loans that they borrowed from the banks, following the steep crash in the prices of agricultural products. Sir, the State's agricultural sector is mainly based on cash crops. The farmers were already over-burdened with high expenditure due to the hike in the prices of fertilisers and other production-related expenditures. The Union Government's decision to withdraw the restrictions on imports, which paved the way for indiscriminate imports of these very products, inflicted a severe blow on the indigenous farmers of the State. According to the estimates made by the Kerala State Government, the loss incurred by the State due to crash in the prices of cash crops alone was a whopping Rs.6,545 crores. In view of the grave situation, the Government must review its policies and take appropriate measures to redress the grievances of the farming community and also save the State's economy.

I also urge upon the Union Government to release adequate funds to the State so that the farmers who have run into debt could be compensated.

Harassment of women in Uttaranchal

MISS MABEL REBELLO (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, a few months ago, the Lashkar-e-Jabaar organisation ordered all Muslim women to wear purdah in the Kashmir valley. Now, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad and the Hindu Jagran Manch are telling women in Uttaranchal not to visit male tailors, -- who are predominantly Muslims -- but only give them the specifications for clothes to be stitched. It looks like, in Uttaranchal, Taliban-style fundamentalists are functioning.